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*Smallpox in Minnesota, November 8 to 22, 1900.*ST. PAUL, MINN., *November 22, 1900.*

SIR: The inclosed is a report of smallpox in this State from November 8 to the present date.

Respectfully,

H. M. BRACKEN.
Secretary State Board of Health.

[Inclosure.]

Duluth.....	54	Lyon County—	
Minneapolis.....	8	Marshall, village.....	24
St. Paul.....	2	Tracy, village.....	3
Carlton County—		Meeker County—	
Cloquet.....	1	Acton Township.....	6
Hennepin County—		Grove City, village.....	1
Champlain Township.....	5	Litchfield, village.....	1
Kandiyohi County—		Pine County—	
Raymond, village.....	1	Kettle River Township.....	1
Whitefield Township.....	3	Ramsey County—	
Atwater, village.....	8	Rose Township.....	1
Le Sueur County—		Wright County—	
Cleveland Township.....	2	Franklin Township.....	11
Sharon Township.....	2	Woodland Township.....	2
Lexington Township.....	1	Total.....	137

*Smallpox in Texas.*FORT WORTH, TEX., *November 22, 1900.*

SIR: I am in receipt of notice that 14 cases of smallpox exist at Sublime, Tex. Smallpox also exists at Blue Springs and Vashti, Tex., also at Lebanon and Powell, Ind. T. The usual instructions have been furnished to the postmasters at each of these places.

Respectfully,

W. L. CATE,
Acting Superintendent Railway Mail Service.

Hon. JAMES E. WHITE,
General Superintendent, Washington, D. C.

*Smallpox in Harrison County, W. Va.*BALTIMORE, MD., *November 23, 1900.*

SIR: Through the medical officer in command, I have the honor to report that in pursuance of Bureau telegraphic orders of November 24, I proceeded by the first available train to Clarksburg, Harrison County, W. Va., arriving at 10.05 a. m., November 25. I immediately proceeded to the house of State Health Officer Flowers and there met in consultation Dr. Flowers and County Health Officer Howell. It developed during the conversation that the primary motive of Dr. Flowers in asking Governor Atkinson to request you to send an officer of the Service to Clarksburg was to establish a diagnosis, the doctor remarking that he thought they could handle the "quarantine" themselves.

After talking over the situation with the State and county health officers and gaining some idea as to their opinions on the question of the time and manner of the introduction of the disease, the number of cases and their distribution, I proceeded to the smallpox hospital which had been erected on November 22, in company with State, county, and city health officers, and the recent appointed assistant city health

officer and 2 physicians not holding office in the community, one of whom, however, had been taking care of the actual cases. I found the location of the hospital to be most undesirable, it being situated in an inaccessible place, on poor soil on a hillside and without water supply other than a small spring. The plant consisted of 2 buildings, 1 about 40 by 30 feet which was divided into 4 rooms and in which both male and female cases were confined. The other building was about 16 feet square, located 100 feet from the one already described and used as a guard house, but I fear that it has already become infected. Seventeen people (all colored) were confined in the hospital, 11 of whom presented well-marked cases of *variola vera* ranging from a mild form to the confluent variety, of which there were 2 cases. Besides these, there were 1 cook and 1 nurse, the latter considered an immune, 1 man who has had smallpox recently, but who now is entirely well, and 3 suspects, the latter having been taken from a house in which a case had developed and confined in the pesthouse.

I also visited a house in which a man has recently had smallpox and a woman now has a mild varioloid. In the evening I met in consultation the mayor of the city, several members of the city council, and the same health officers as previously mentioned. After expressing the view that, in my opinion, the disease was unquestionably smallpox, the mayor asked for ideas as to the best methods of controlling the epidemic, and I advised the establishing of a proper camp of detention with its several divisions, and submitted a drawing of the same; the inauguration of house-to-house inspection and disinfection wherever necessary, and a thorough vaccination of the entire population, the mayor stating at this point that the laws of West Virginia did not permit compulsory vaccination. The reason for and the effects of each measure were minutely explained as it was taken up, and questions bearing upon the situation were answered to the best of my ability. On Monday morning, accompanied by County Health Officer Howell, I drove to Wallace, a distance of 17 miles, and returned the same day. Cases had been reported at Wilsonburg and at O'Neill's mines, and stops were therefore made at each of these places.

At the former, 1 white family, consisting of father, mother, and 2 children, was seen, and all were found to be convalescing from smallpox. At the latter, 1 white family, consisting of father, mother, and 1 child, was visited, and the father found to be in the third week of the disease. At Wallace I met Dr. Robard, contract surgeon for the "Short Line" Railroad now being built between Clarksburg and New Martinsville, and with him saw 3 negroes, who presented evidence of having had the disease some months ago, and 1 white man, 1 of the contractors of the road, who is now convalescing from an attack of the confluent form. Dr. Robard states that within the past year he has had among the construction camps, located between Wallace and the Summit tunnel, 140 cases of smallpox, 30 of which have been among white people and the rest among negroes, with a mortality of 3 negroes and 1 white. During this trip I again went over with Dr. Howell the best methods, in my opinion, of suppressing the epidemic, and did the same again on Tuesday with Dr. Flowers and Mr. Ferris, president of the county court and ex officio president of the county board of health. At this time I urged upon Dr. Flowers the importance of prompt, intelligent, and conscientious work and the immediate inauguration of the campaign as previously mapped out. I saw in all 18 cases of smallpox, besides several persons presenting evidence of having recently recovered from the disease.

The health authorities are cognizant of the existence of several more cases but they did not think it necessary that I should see them as they were united in the opinion that there was no doubt about the diagnosis. At the present time there are 7 houses within the corporate limits of the city in which cases of smallpox have been discovered. The persons actually sick with the disease have been removed to the smallpox hospital, other inmates of the houses forbidden to leave them and guards placed over them in some places, but the houses have not as yet been disinfected. There are between Clarksburg and Wallace 2 known infected dwellings, and judging from the report of Dr. Robard all of the construction camps along the "Short Line" Railroad must be considered as foci of infection. With the disease as widely distributed as it is, I am of the opinion that very resolute measures will be necessary to secure its eradication, and most strongly would I urge greater persistence in the matter of vaccination, and instead of vaccinating only those persons who apply of their own volition, as is now the case, would suggest house-to-house visitation and vaccination of all who do not absolutely refuse, coupled, of course, with such of the other recommended procedures as it is possible to employ.

Respectfully,

W. CHESTER BILLINGS,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

Respectfully forwarded.

GEO. PURVIANCE,
Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

Vessels from West Indian ports inspected at Reedy Island Quarantine.

REEDY ISLAND QUARANTINE,
via Port Penn, Del., November 25, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor to report the arrival on November 23 of Norwegian steamship *Frey*, from Martinique via St. Jago de Cuba, with iron ore; no passengers; Santiago bill of health signed by Assistant Surgeon von Ezdorf.

Respectfully,

T. F. RICHARDSON,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S., In Command.

Arrival at Baltimore of vessels from West Indian and South American ports.

BALTIMORE, MD., *December 1, 1900.*

SIR: I have to report the arrival at this port, during the week ended to-day, the following-named vessels: November 26, British steamship *Accomac*, from Daiquiri, with iron ore. November 28, British steamship *Benwick*, from Daiquiri, with iron ore. November 30, British steamship *Drummond*, from Santiago de Cuba, with iron ore; Norwegian steamship *Hero*, from Daiquiri, with iron ore; American schooner *John A. Matheson*, from San Andres, Colombia, with cocoanuts. December 1, British steamship *Homeric*, from Daiquiri, with iron ore.

Respectfully,

WM. F. STONE,
Collector.

Reports from the Mexican border.

El Paso, Tex., November 24, 1900—Inspection service.—I have the honor to transmit herewith summary of work at this station, for the week ended November 24, 1900: Inspection Mexican Central Railroad passenger trains, 112 persons; inspection Rio Grande and Pacific Railroad